DATA Republican (small r)
June 24, 2026

MAJOR BREAKING: German government has been grooming DSA leaders for over a decade, and nobody noticed? Last night, Darializa Avila Chevalier — endorsed by NYC-DSA (Democratic Socialists of America) — beat a five-term incumbent to win New York's 13th congressional district.
@AsraNomani has been reporting on their ties to Cuba and the China/Singham network. But what's not known is DSA's deep ties to the German government. The Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung (RLS) is the political foundation of Die Linke — the German parliamentary party formed from the merger of the Party of Democratic Socialism, itself the legal successor to East Germany's ruling Marxist party, the SED. Under German law, every party in the Bundestag gets a taxpayer-funded foundation. Die Linke's share is approximately EUR70MM annually. Most German party foundations sponsor conferences, publish research, and fund exchange programs. What RLS-NYC did was put its own staff inside DSA's organizational leadership — concurrently — for over a decade. In 2012, RLS opened a New York office. EIN 45-3658022. Their own annual report states: "With the help of funds from the BMZ and the Foreign Office, the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung maintains a network of international relationships. This includes financing its foreign offices." Over the last 13 years, Berlin has sent millions to this office. Despite these ties, no FARA registration for the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung was identified in the Department of Justice database. As always, patience as I pull together the thread.

https://youtu.be/5EIQpcHkt04

Neal Meyer is listed on the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation's payroll as "Project Manager." Meyer previously served as NYC-DSA's chapter treasurer from 2016 to 2018.

About Us

Neal started organizing and doing left politics in 2007 in college in the Student Labor Action Movement ("SLAM"). He joined the Democratic Socialists of America in 2012 and worked for a year as DSA's student organizer. He was then responsible for building *Jacobin*'s reading groups program. Between 2016 and 2018, Neal served a two year rotation as NYC-DSA's treasurer and helped rebuild the chapter.

Since 2018 Neal has been a lead organizer for DSA's Bread & Roses caucus and an editor for its publication, *The Call*. He's also working on a dissertation at New York University's sociology program on the policy and political strategy of the Democratic Party since the 1990s.

The Setting

For years, the state of New York as well as New York City have been governed by Democrats. The state party leadership is dominated by neoliberal centrists in the mould of Bill Clinton and Barack Obama. With few exceptions, Democratic governors and mayors have been recruited from their ranks.

Neal Meyer works as a project manager at the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation's New York Office.

On January 15, Meyer published "Big Stakes in the Big Apple" on http://rosalux.nyc , a strategic analysis of DSA's electoral prospects after Mamdani's mayoral victory. One week later, NYC-DSA voted endorse Darializa Avila Chevalier for NY-13.

By PETER STERNE | JANUARY 22, 2026

The New York City chapter of the Democratic Socialists of America voted on Thursday in favor of endorsing Darializa Avila Chevalier, who is running against Rep. Adriano Espaillat — setting up what could be a competitive challenge to one of the state's most powerful incumbents by the ascendant leftist group behind Mayor Zohran Mamdani. The chapter also voted to endorse Assembly Member Claire Valdez, who is running for an open seat in Queens and Brooklyn.

Meyer is not the only documented personnel crossover from RLS-NYC into DSA. Heidi Chua: RLS-NYC Office Manager from 2013 to 2017, listed on the 990-PF at approximately $60K/year. Active DSA member while on the German payroll. By January 2019, she was on DSA's national staff.

Schwa.[4]

DSA Women's Caucus Facebook group

Members of the DSA Women's Caucus closed Facebook group, as of August 25, 2017 included **Heidi Easton Chua Schwa** .[4]

Upper Manhattan/Bronx DSA Closed Facebook Group

Members of the Upper Manhattan/Bronx Democratic Socialists of America, closed Facebook group, as of October 15, 2017 included **Heidi Easton Chua Schwa** .[5]

People for Bernie

In 2016 **Heidi Easton Chua Schwa** of Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, was a leader of People for Bernie.

Mapping Socialist Strategies

Mapping Socialist Strategies was convened from August 1-4 in Briarcliff Manor, NY, by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung—New York Office. It brang together 100 influential progressives and leftists from across the United States, Canada, and Europe for an "un-conference" on socialist strategies.

Attendees included **Heidi Easton Chua Schwa**.

New York staff

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, July 2018;[6]

- Stefanie Ehmsen, Ph.D. - Co-Director
- Albert Scharenberg, Ph.D. - Co-Director
- Ethan Earle - Program Manager

Events

2018 Annual Report Call

Thursday, March 14th, 2019

8:00 PM EDT / 7:00 PM CDT / 6:00 PM MDT / 5:00 PM PDT

Call / Meeting Info

RSVP: RSVP Here

Event Information

Theresa Alt of our budget and finance committee, in partnership with Heidi Chua and Alison Baldree from staff, will review our activities across chapters and the

Nonprofit Explorer > New York > Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung Inc

Nonprofits

Select a schedule: Form 990PF

Name and address of each employee paid more than $50,000	(b) hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) plans and deferred compensation
CLAUDETTE CHANOINE C/O ROSA-LUXEMBURG-STIFTUNG NEW YORK, NY 10016	FINANCIAL MANAGER 40.0	72,720	7,961
ETHAN EARLE C/O ROSA-LUXEMBURG-STIFTUNG NEW YORK, NY 10016	PROJECT MANAGER 40.0	78,545	8,575
KEITH MITCHELL C/O ROSA-LUXEMBURG-STIFTUNG NEW YORK, NY 10016	PROJECT MANAGER 40.0	75,341	7,961
MARIANA FERNANDEZ C/O ROSA-LUXEMBURG-STIFTUNG NEW YORK, NY 10016	PROJECT MANAGER 40.0	72,000	7,926
HEIDI CHUA C/O ROSA-LUXEMBURG-STIFTUNG NEW YORK, NY 10016	OFFICE MANAGER 40.0	60,684	13,279
Total number of other employees paid over $50,000. . . . . ▶			

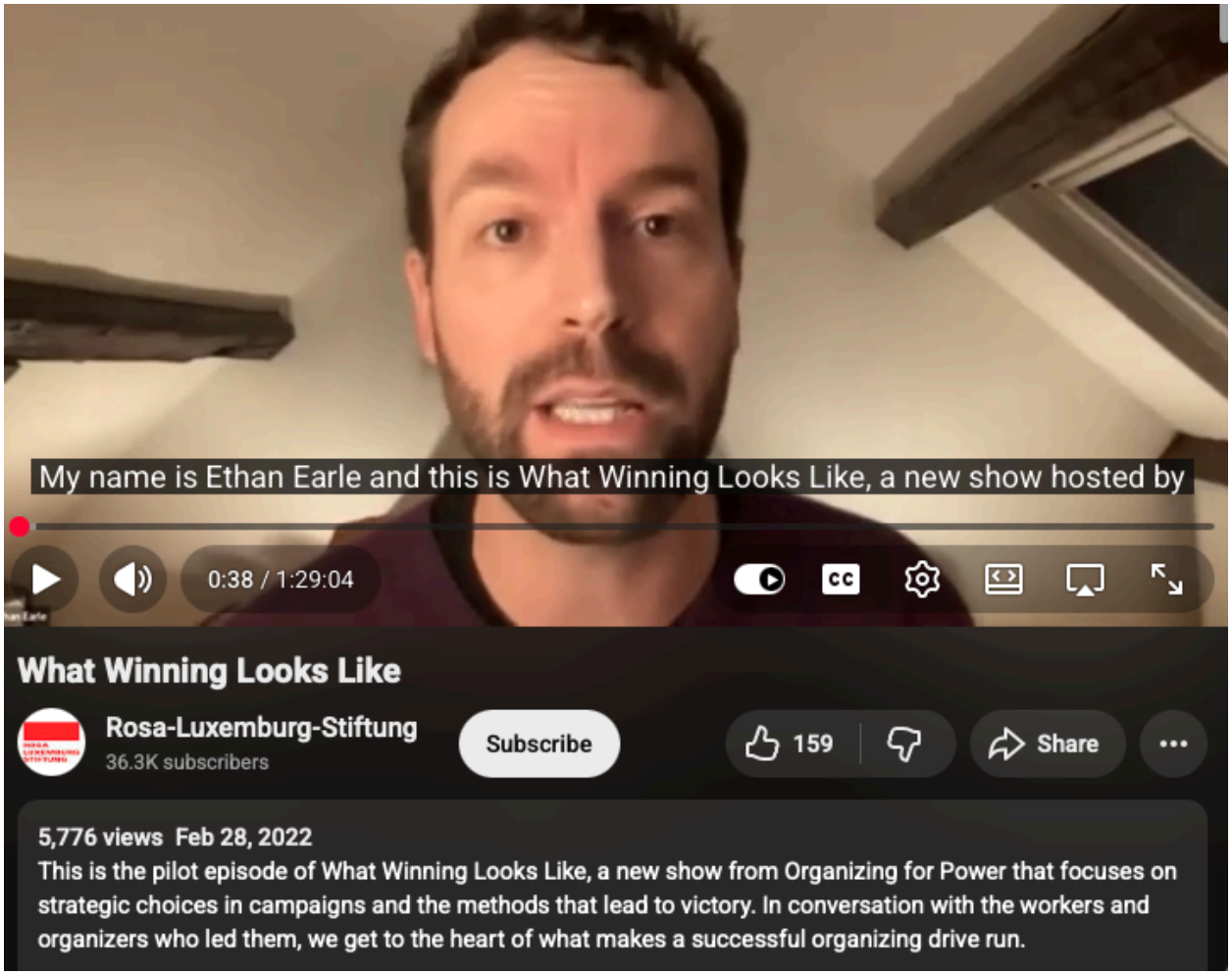
Ethan Earle: RLS-NYC Project Manager for seven years, 2012 to 2018. He was a member of DSA's International Committee — the committee responsible for DSA's foreign party relationships. He hosts "What Winning Looks Like" for the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation's Berlin YouTube channel.

Party of the European Left

Member of North America Working Group, Party of the European Left, Oct 2017 - Present.

DSA's International Committee

In June 2019 members of the Democratic Socialists of America International Commission included Carrington Morris, Bill Fletcher, Jr., Dan La Botz, **Ethan Earle**, Ella Wind, David Grosser, Carl B.[2]


My name is Ethan Earle and this is What Winning Looks Like, a new show hosted by
0:38 / 1:29:04
What Winning Looks Like
Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung
36.3K subscribers
Subscribe
159
Share
5,776 views Feb 28, 2022
This is the pilot episode of What Winning Looks Like, a new show from Organizing for Power that focuses on strategic choices in campaigns and the methods that lead to victory. In conversation with the workers and organizers who led them, we get to the heart of what makes a successful organizing drive run.

The money trail is simple because there's only one source: the German government. The RLS 2024 Annual Report (p.82) states: "This includes financing its foreign offices." The New York office is listed on page 40 as one of those offices. Liebich is described on page 39 as "head of our New York office."

OUR INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

MEXICO CITY

QUITO

LATIN AMERICA UNIT

ANDES

Location: Quito, Ecuador
Year founded: 2010
Project countries: Ecuador, Bolivia, Colombia, Venezuela
Office director: Karin Gabbert
www.rosalux.org.ec

CONO SUR

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina
Year founded: 2015
Project countries: Argentina, Chile, Uruguay
Office director: Torge Löding
rosalux-ba.org

BRAZIL AND PARAGUAY

Location: São Paulo, Brazil
Year founded: 2003
Project countries: Brazil, Paraguay
Office director: Andreas Behn
rosalux.org.br

MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, AND CUBA

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS UNIT

NORTH AMERICA AND UNITED NATIONS

Location: New York, USA
Year founded: 2012
Project countries: USA, Canada, UN locations
Office director: Stefan Liebich
https://rosalux.nyc/

Socialist Forum

A Democratic Socialists of America Publication

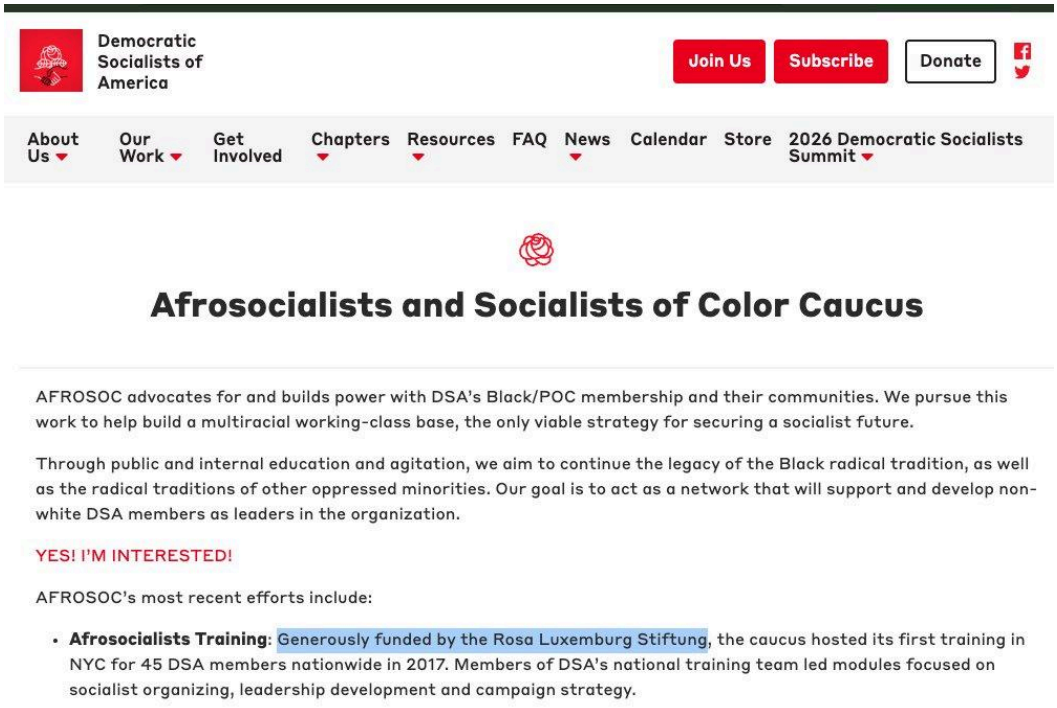
DSA's International Politics: As It Is, and As It Should Be

As DSA continues to grow and develop, our approach to doing international politics needs to reflect and build upon those changes.

by ETHAN EARLE - WINTER 2020

For the last year and a half, I have served as one of two co-chairs of the DSA International Committee (IC). Our committee has just sent a proposal to DSA's National Political Committee (NPC) that would radically restructure the national organization's approach to international work going forward, which would also render my own co-chair role redundant. I will summarize the contents of that proposal below, but first I want to provide my own assessment of DSA's international work as it has developed and currently stands.

RSL supports DSA through program expenditures — training, conferences, publications, staff salaries for people like Meyer and Earle. Those costs appear as aggregate line items on the 990-PF. They don't show up on DSA's books.


Democratic Socialists of America
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Resources
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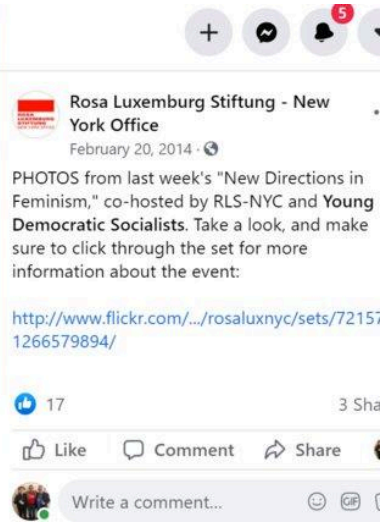
Store
2026 Democratic Socialists Summit
Afrosocialists and Socialists of Color Caucus
AFROSOC advocates for and builds power with DSA's Black/POC membership and their communities. We pursue this work to help build a multiracial working-class base, the only viable strategy for securing a socialist future.
Through public and internal education and agitation, we aim to continue the legacy of the Black radical tradition, as well as the radical traditions of other oppressed minorities. Our goal is to act as a network that will support and develop non-white DSA members as leaders in the organization.
YES! I'M INTERESTED!
AFROSOC's most recent efforts include:
Afrosocialists Training: Generously funded by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, the caucus hosted its first training in NYC for 45 DSA members nationwide in 2017. Members of DSA's national training team led modules focused on socialist organizing, leadership development and campaign strategy.

August 2014: RLS-NYC convened ~100 leftists for a four-day strategic retreat in NY. "Mapping Socialist Strategies." Organizations like DSA, Communist Party USA, and Freedom Road Socialist Organization were represented. Advisory group included Maria Svart, the then-DSA National Director.


Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung - New York Office
February 20, 2014 ·
PHOTOS from last week's "New Directions in Feminism," co-hosted by RLS-NYC and Young Democratic Socialists. Take a look, and make sure to click through the set for more information about the event:
http://www.flickr.com/.../rosaluxnyc/sets/72157
1266579894/
17
3 Sha
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Write a comment...

Mapping Socialist Strategies

lapping Socialist Strategies was convened from August 1-4 2014, in riarcliff Manor, NY, by the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung—New York Office. It rang together 100 influential progressives and leftists from across the nited States, Canada, and Europe for an "un-conference" on socialist trategies.

Visit the main page

While socialism has a long history in Europe, Canada, and even the United States, in recent decades socialists on both sides of the North Atlantic have found it difficult to fight the neoliberal tide. Whether it is the capitulation of center-left politicians to neoliberal orthodoxy, the rise of austerity, or shifting class formations, the state of capitalism looks remarkably similar throughout the North Atlantic region. Meanwhile, the term "socialist" has most often been used as an epithet to denigrate

Maria Svart

Maria L. Svart was a member of DSA from 2004, and became the DSA National Director from July 5, 2011. She stepped down in January, 2024.

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2 Farewell to DSA
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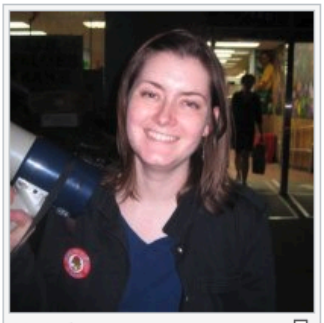
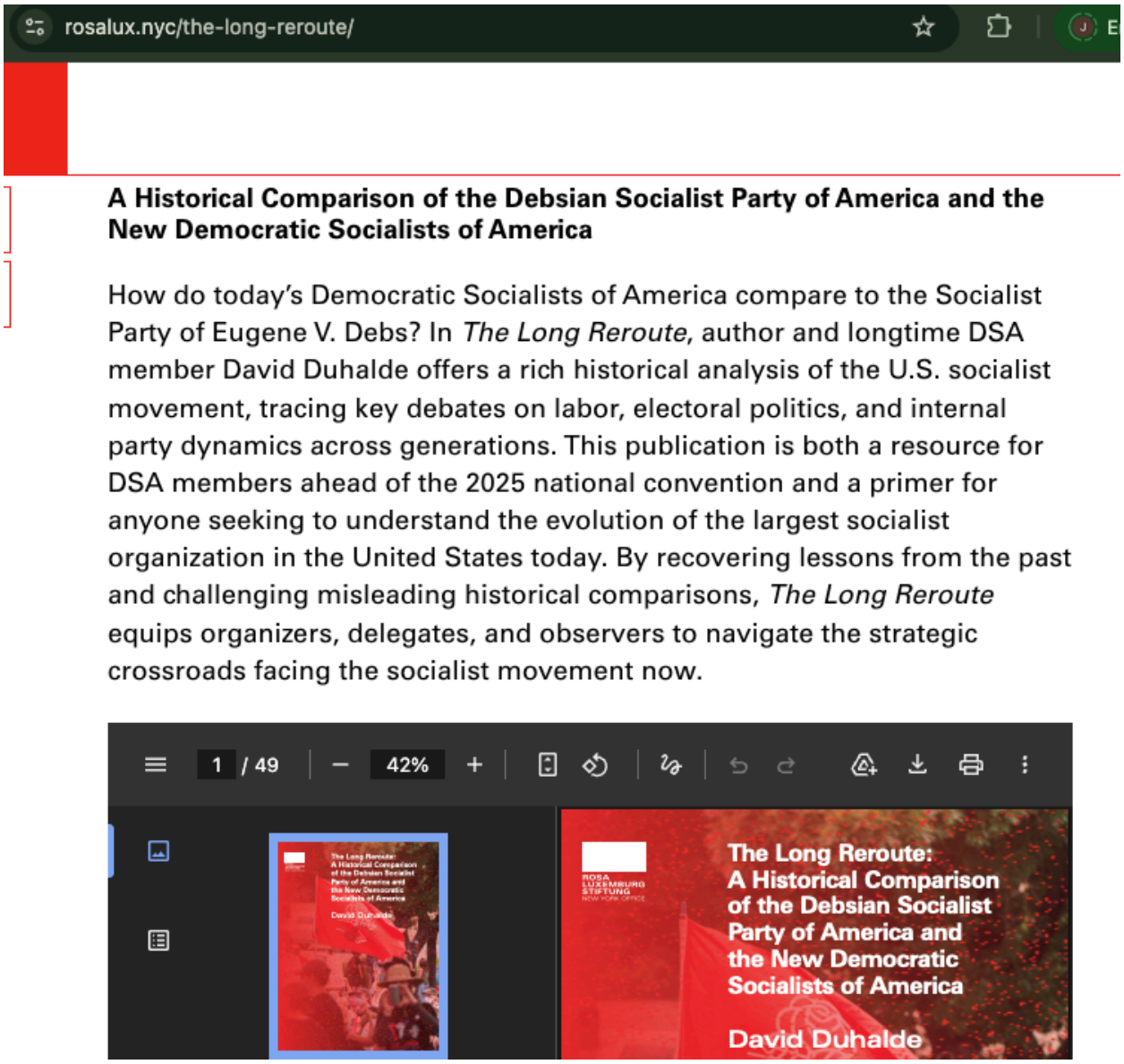
5 Rosa Luxemburg connection
6 SEIU
7 Atlanta DSA convention
8 DSA contact
9 NYC DSA steering committee



Maria Svart

July 2025: RLS-NYC published "The Long Reroute" by David Duhalde — the chair of DSA Fund. The publication was described as "preparatory material for DSA members attending the 2025 national convention."


rosalux.nyc/the-long-reroute/
A Historical Comparison of the Debsian Socialist Party of America and the New Democratic Socialists of America
How do today's Democratic Socialists of America compare to the Socialist Party of Eugene V. Debs? In *The Long Reroute*, author and longtime DSA member David Duhalde offers a rich historical analysis of the U.S. socialist movement, tracing key debates on labor, electoral politics, and internal party dynamics across generations. This publication is both a resource for DSA members ahead of the 2025 national convention and a primer for anyone seeking to understand the evolution of the largest socialist organization in the United States today. By recovering lessons from the past and challenging misleading historical comparisons, *The Long Reroute* equips organizers, delegates, and observers to navigate the strategic crossroads facing the socialist movement now.
1 / 49
42%
The Long Reroute: A Historical Comparison of the Debsian Socialist Party of America and the New Democratic Socialists of America
David Duhalde

The current director of RLS-NYC is Stefan Liebich. Born December 30, 1972, in Wismar — East Germany. Joined the PDS, the SED successor party, in 1990 at age 18. Served as a Die Linke Bundestag member from 2009 to 2021 and chaired their foreign affairs parliamentary group. A former foreign affairs parliamentarian from the party that descends from the East German communists now runs the New York arm of that party's foundation.

Stefan Liebich (born 30 December 1972) is the director of the Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung New York Office and was a German politician, who served as a member of the Bundestag for the Democratic Socialist party The Left (DIE LINKE) between 2009 and 2021.

Life [edit]

Liebich was born on 30 December 1972 in the East German city of Wismar and spent his childhood in Greifswald. In 1983, he moved with his family to Berlin. According to Liebich he was approached by the Stasi at the age of 13, who asked him if he could imagine working for them at a later time.[3][4] After completing his Abitur in 1991, he graduated from **Berlin** University of Applied Sciences and Technology in business economics with a focus on information systems in 1995.[4] He is not religious.[5] Liebich is married to Hillary Frey and lives with her in Brooklyn, New York.

Party [edit]

In the GDR Stefan Liebich was a member of the marxist youth organisation FDJ. in 1990, on his 18th birthday, he joined the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS).[*citation needed*][6]

In 1996 and 1998 the PDS in Marzahn elected him as chair of the district. In December

Stefan Liebich

Portrait of Liebich (2017)

Member of the Bundestag for Berlin-Pankow

In office
27 October 2009 – 26 October 2021

Preceded by Wolfgang Thierse

On April 8, 2026, Liebich published "100 Days of Mayor Mamdani" on http://rosalux.nyc. In it, he noted that the foundation "has collaborated for a number of years" with Cea Weaver — the tenants' rights activist Mamdani appointed as Director of the Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants on his first day in office.

The Rent is Too Damn High

On his first day in office, Mamdani delivered a powerful message: he revoked a number of executive orders put in place by his predecessor Eric Adams and appointed Cea Weaver, a well-known tenants' rights activist — with whom the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung's New York branch has collaborated for a number of years — as director of the revitalized Mayor's Office to Protect Tenants. The office was established in 2019 by then Mayor Bill de Blasio but was closed again under Adams. By reviving it, Mamdani has underscored just how crucial housing policy is for his administration.

March 2018: RLS-NYC organized the first-ever delegation of European left party officials to the Congressional Progressive Caucus Strategy Summit in Baltimore. On the other side of those meetings: Elizabeth Warren (keynote), Nancy Pelosi, Ro Khanna, Barbara Lee, Pramila Jayapal. A German government-funded foundation brokered introductions between European socialist party officials and sitting US members of Congress.

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung - New York Office, May 21 2018;

Our panelists at Historical Materialism in Montreal this weekend (from left), Claus Thomasberger (HTW Berlin), Michael Brie (RLS Berlin), Kari Polanyi Levitt (McGill University), Maria Starzmann (RLS–NYC), Malin Kuth (intern, RLS–NYC), Harmony Goldberg (Grassroots Policy Project), Ethan Young (Left Labor Project), and Lorenz Gosta Beutin (MP, Die Linke).

Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung - New York Office
May 21 ·
Our panelists at Historical Materialism in Montreal this weekend (from left), Claus Thomasberger (HTW Berlin), Michael Brie (RLS Berlin), Kari Polanyi Levitt (McGill University), Maria Starzmann (RLS–NYC), Malin Kuth (intern, RLS–NYC), Harmony Goldberg (Grassroots Policy Project), Ethan Young (Left Labor Project), and Lorenz Gösta Beutin (MP, DIE LINKE).
NEW YORK OFFICE

Left Democrats in Search of Anti-Trump Strategy

Last weekend, the Congressional Progressive Caucus met for its annual strategy conference in Baltimore. For the first time, a delegation of European left-wing parties organized by the New York office of the Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung attended the summit.

a small foreign delegation for the first time ever. Composed and supported by the New York office of the **Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung**, the delegation consisted of representatives of European left parties: Sevim Dagdelen (deputy chair of Die Linke in the German Bundestag), Eduardo Maura (member of the Spanish parliament for Podemos), Yiannis Bournous (head of International Relations for SYRIZA) and Diane Abbott (representative of the British Labor Party and member of Jeremy Corbyn's shadow cabinet).

Senator Elizabeth Warren gave the conference keynote speech, heavily criticizing some of her Democratic colleagues. Just a week before the conference, 16 of them had voted with Republicans on a bill softening banking regulations which had been passed after the Great Recession. "It is so hard to fight against all the money and all the lobbying. It is so hard to fight when we fight and lose. It's worse when some of our teammates don't even show up for the fight," she said.

European delegation, Diane Abbott second from right

Every major German party has a taxpayer-funded Stiftung. CDU has Konrad Adenauer. SPD has Friedrich Ebert. The Greens have Heinrich Böll. FDP has Friedrich Naumann. But Rosa Luxemburg is unique. In reviewing the other foundations' US programming, no evidence was identified that any of the non-RSL foundations run training programs for a US political organization, maintain concurrent staff pipelines into US political organizations, or publish convention strategy for a US political organization.

Rosa Luxemburg does not appear in FARA search results. 100% German government funding. Staff who simultaneously held leadership positions in a US political organization. Training in "campaign strategy." Convention strategy publications written by officers of the target organization. A delegation of European party officials to a US congressional caucus retreat.

CONCLUSION: German Bundestag appropriates EUR 70M/year to Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung in Berlin. Their own annual report: "This includes financing its foreign offices." Cumulative revenue of the New York office: $19.1 million over 13 years. New York office employs Neal Meyer, who

served as NYC-DSA's treasurer and published DSA electoral strategy from the German foundation's platform. New York office's director, born in East Germany and a former Bundestag member for the party that descends from the SED, publishes performance evaluations of a DSA mayor while claiming years of collaboration with his appointees. NYC-DSA votes 82% to endorse Darializa Avila Chevalier. She wins. Everything in this thread is from public IRS filings, the foundation's own website, and the foundation's own YouTube channel. The pipeline runs from the Bundestag to the United States House of Representatives and it has been in public view the entire time. Enough is enough.